



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Information pack for applicants

National Infrastructure Commission for Wales

Appointment of Chair

Closing date: 21 October 2019

CSCC
NICW

Comisiwn Seilwaith
Cenedlaethol Cymru
National Infrastructure
Commission Wales

Contents

Making an Application

Annex A: The role of Chair

Annex B: The role and responsibilities of National Infrastructure Commission for Wales

Annex C: The selection process

Background

Thank you for your interest in the appointment of Chair to the National Infrastructure Commission for Wales (NICW). The Welsh Government established the NICW to support independent, well-informed advice on a longer-term strategy of infrastructure investment, which enshrines the principles of the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015.

The NICW is a non-statutory, advisory body. Its remit is to focus on the economic and environmental infrastructure needs of Wales over 5 – 30 years. The Commission will also consider aspects of housing and interactions with ‘social infrastructure’, such as schools and hospitals. However, the NICW is not expected to consider and advise on health and education infrastructure needs in detail.

The advice provided by the NICW will be strategic and forward looking in nature. Advice on existing or upcoming infrastructure schemes that have already been agreed will not be part of the Commission’s remit.

Making an application

The Chair of NICW will have a unique opportunity to look at Wales’ long-term economic and environmental infrastructure needs, shaping future infrastructure networks by making formal recommendations to the Welsh Government on strategic linkages, dependencies and priorities, including the relationships with social infrastructure such as housing. The attached Annexes provide details on the role of the Chair and the person specification, the role and responsibilities of NICW and the selection process.

To make an application please visit the Welsh Government public appointment website here <http://wales.gov.uk/publicappointments>

To apply for this role, click on the Chair of the National Infrastructure Commission for Wales vacancy and click on ‘Apply’ at the bottom left hand corner. The first time you apply for a post, you will need to complete a registration form for the Welsh Government’s online application system. You will only need to register once, and you will be able to keep yourself updated on the progress of your application, and any other applications you make, via your registered account.

Once you have registered, you’ll be able to access the application form. To apply you will need to upload a personal statement and CV to the ‘Reasons for applying’ section of the online application form.

Personal Statement

The personal statement is your opportunity to demonstrate how you meet each of the criteria set out in the person specification. How you choose to present the information is up to you. However, you should aim to provide detailed examples that demonstrate how your knowledge and experience matches each of the criteria, and which describe what your role was in achieving a specific result. It will also benefit the selection panel if you can be clear which particular evidence you provide relates to which criteria. Providing separate paragraphs in relation to each criterion is common practice.

National Infrastructure Commission for Wales

Please limit your personal statement to two pages. Your application may be rejected if you exceed this limit.

CV

Please ensure your CV includes brief details of your current or most recent post and the dates you occupied this role. Please identify any past or present Ministerial appointments.

Indicative timetable

Closing date: **21 October 2019**
Shortlisting: **w/c 4th November 2019**
Interviews: **w/c 6th January 2019**

Diversity Statement

The Welsh Government believes that public bodies should have board members who reflect Welsh society - people from all walks of life - to help them understand people's needs and make better decisions. This is why the Welsh Government is encouraging a wide and diverse range of individuals to apply for appointments to public bodies. Applications are particularly welcome from all under-represented groups including women, people under 30 years of age, black, Asian and minority ethnic people, disabled people, and lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people.

Guaranteed Interview Scheme - Positive about Disability

The Welsh Government operates a Positive about Disabled People scheme and welcome applications from people with disabilities. The scheme guarantees an interview to disabled people if they meet the minimum criteria for the post. The application form also enables you to detail any specific needs or equipment that you may need if invited to attend an interview.

Contacts:

For further information regarding the role of the NICW and the role of Chair, please contact:

Adrian Davies, Office of the National Infrastructure Commission for Wales
Tel: 03000 257691
Email: Adrian.Davies2@gov.wales

If you need any further assistance in applying for this role, please contact publicappointments@gov.wales.

Appointment of a Chair of the National Infrastructure Commission for Wales

Role description and person specification

Role and responsibilities

The Chair will be a strategic thinker and an independent voice on infrastructure, working with a diverse group of Commissioners. The Chair will have a prominent public profile, presenting NICW's recommendations in public and to the National Assembly for Wales, and testing the delivery of NICW recommendations, which are accepted by the Welsh Government. The Chair will finesse NICW's role and build consensus with industry and other stakeholders.

Duties and responsibilities: for:

- strategic leadership for NICW; setting priorities and ensuring the independence of its recommendations; overseeing delivery of NICW's work, including monitoring delivery by the Welsh Government;
- directing Commissioners' input, harnessing their skills, experience and expertise;
- providing expert, impartial advice to the Welsh Government on infrastructure, including advice on prioritisation and value for money on public and private investments;
- building consensus around NICW recommendations;
- engaging with stakeholders, including government, industry, academia, interest groups and the public;
- building a working relationship with the UK National Infrastructure Commission;
- representing NICW in public, including in the media

Person Specification

Essential Criteria

- a highly regarded leader, with the ability to lead boards and organisations effectively;
- ability to provide robust, independent advice, under a high level of public interest and scrutiny, and use a public profile to build consensus;

National Infrastructure Commission for Wales

- credibility with government, industry and the public;
- ability to process complex information, take a long-term view and weigh probabilities to reach clear conclusions;
- ability to clearly communicate complex topics;
- understanding of the Welsh Government's infrastructure objectives, its wider policy, delivery and finance framework, including the duties and commitments under the Wellbeing of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015, and the devolution settlement.
- ability to lead at a strategic level e.g. within government, academia or business;
- track record of communicating and influencing at the highest levels;
- ability to represent organisations in public, including in the media and with a range of stakeholders;
- experience in one or more sectors of economic and/or environment infrastructure (desirable)
- ability to demonstrate a track record of commitment to and notable delivery against principles of equality and diversity
- understanding of, and commitment to, the principles of public life

Welsh Language

Welsh language skills are desirable but not a pre-requisite for appointment.

National Infrastructure Commission for Wales

Key facts about the post

Location:	Meetings to be held pan-Wales
Time Commitment:	5 days per month
Tenure of office:	Initial appointment 3 years
Remuneration:	£400 per day plus travel and other reasonable expenses within reasonable limits.

Eligibility

Applicants should be persons who conduct themselves at all times in a manner, which will maintain public confidence.

Applicants should be aware that the House of Commons Disqualification Act 1975 or Orders made under the Government of Wales Act 2006 apply.

Conflict of Interests

You will be asked to declare any private interests, which may, or may be perceived to, conflict with the role and responsibilities as Chair of the NICW including any business interests and positions of authority outside of the role in the NICW.

Any conflicts of interest will be explored at interview. If appointed, you will also be required to declare these interests on a register, which is available to the public.

Standards in public life

You will be expected to demonstrate high standards of corporate and personal conduct. All successful candidates will be asked to subscribe to the Code of Conduct for Board Members of Public Bodies; you can access this document at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/code-of-conduct-for-board-members-of-public-bodies>

Disclosure and Barring Assessment

The successful candidate will be required to undergo an assessment by the Disclosure and Barring Service.

National Infrastructure Commission for Wales Terms of Reference

Purpose

The Welsh Government has established a National Infrastructure Commission for Wales (NICW) to support independent, better-informed advice on a longer-term strategy of infrastructure investment, which enshrines the principles of the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015.

Governance and remit

The NICW has been established as non-statutory, advisory body to provide advice and recommendations to the Welsh Ministers on the economic and environmental infrastructure needs of Wales over 5-30 years.

The Commission is remitted to focus on economic and environmental needs, but should also consider the interactions of these needs with 'social infrastructure', such as schools, hospitals and housing. However, the NICW is not expected to consider and advise on social infrastructure needs in detail.

The Welsh Government will set out through an annual remit letter the areas on which it would like the NICfW to focus, as well as the available budget. This letter will be sent to the Chair of the Commission before the start of each financial year.

The advice provided by the NICfW will be strategic and forward looking in nature. Advice will not be provided on existing or upcoming infrastructure schemes that have already been agreed.

Within its advice, the NICfW must reflect the goals and principles of the Well-Being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015¹. This includes:

- The Welsh Government's Well-Being Objectives
- The Five Ways of Working
- The Sustainable Development Principle

The NICW must also consider the obligations of Welsh Minister's in respect of the Environment (Wales) Act 2016, and other legislative obligations, when providing advice.

The NICW is expected to produce and publish a 'State of the Nation report' every 3-5 years. This report will take an impartial view at the current state of economic and environmental infrastructure across Wales.

¹ http://www.legislation.gov.uk/anaw/2015/2/pdfs/anaw_20150002_en.pdf

National Infrastructure Commission for Wales

The Commission will also be expected to produce an annual report on its activity for the previous year, and to produce any ad-hoc reports deemed necessary by the Welsh Government and / or the NICW

The Welsh Government is committed to supporting the independence of the NICW by:

- Formally responding to the State of the Nation report, and tabling the report, and the response, in the National Assembly for Wales.
- Tabling the reports of the NICW in the National Assembly.
- Formally responding to recommendations of the NICW and tabling this response in the National Assembly, including rationale for why recommendations have been endorsed or otherwise not accepted.

Membership and Secretariat

Membership currently comprises 12 Commissioners, including the Chair.

The appointment will be made by the Welsh Ministers for a maximum term of 3 years.

The Chair will be appointed based on merit and expertise, and will be expected to demonstrate ability to consider the diverse nature of communities in Wales.

The Chair will be supported by a secretariat comprising of Welsh Government staff.

Accountability

The NICW is accountable to the Welsh Ministers for the quality and propriety of its advice and recommendations, and its use of public funding. The NICW may also have its work scrutinised and held to account by the National Assembly for Wales, and could be asked to participate in Assembly committee hearings.

The Welsh Government will be held to account by the National Assembly for Wales for the direction it provides to the NICW. It will also be scrutinised in respect of the recommendations it does or does not accept, and the rationale behind these decisions.

Review

The NICW will be subject to a comprehensive review of its status, remit and objectives before the end of the fifth term of the National Assembly for Wales (2016-2021).

Subsequent arrangements for reviewing the NICfW will be established after this initial review.

The selection process

The interview panel will assess candidates' CVs and personal statements to determine who it believes best meet the criteria for the role, and who will be invited to interview. The panel will rely only on the information you provide in your CV and statement to assess whether you have the skills and experience required. Please ensure that you provide evidence to support how you meet all of the essential criteria.

Your application may be "long-listed", subject to the volume of applications received, before it is passed to the shortlisting panel for consideration. You should be aware that in this situation, your application might not be considered in full by all of the panel.

We anticipate that during December 2019 the panel will have decided who will be invited for interview in January 2020

The panel will select for interview only the strongest applicants who it feels have demonstrated that they best meet the criteria set out in the person specification. However, if you have applied under the guaranteed interview scheme and you meet the minimum essential criteria for the post, then you will also be invited for interview.

If you are invited to interview, we will aim to provide you with as much notice as we can of the interview date. If you are unable to make the arranged interview date, we will endeavour to re-arrange it but it might not be possible due to time constraints within the appointment timetable or selection panel availability.

You will receive email communication from the Appoint system to let you know whether or not you have been invited to attend an interview. It is our intention that interviews will take place in Cardiff.

If invited to interview, the panel will question you about your skills and experience, asking specific questions to assess whether you meet the criteria set out for the post.

Candidates, who the Panel believe are appointable, will be recommended to the Minister for Housing and Local Government. The Minister may choose to meet one or more appointable candidates before selecting a preferred candidate. This decision is expected in early 2020.

The Minister's preferred candidate will attend a Pre-Appointment Hearing with the Economy, Infrastructure and Skills Committee of the National Assembly for Wales. This is an opportunity for the Committee, on behalf of the National Assembly, to scrutinise the candidate. After receiving the recommendation of the Committee, the Minister will make a final decision about the appointment.

If you are successful, you will receive a letter appointing you as Chair of the National Infrastructure Commission for Wales, which will confirm the terms on which the appointment is offered.

If you are unsuccessful at interview, you will be notified by Welsh Government. We appreciate it takes a lot of time and effort to apply for roles and that feedback is a

valuable part of the process. As a result, the letter will provide the details of who you may approach for feedback on your interview and application, if you so wish

Queries

For queries about your application, please contact PublicAppointment@gov.wales.

If you are not completely satisfied

Welsh Government will aim to process all applications as quickly as possible and to treat all applicants with courtesy. If you have any complaints about the way your application has been handled, please contact PublicAppointments@gov.wales